

## Ruby's Secret Testimony to Warren Given Word for Word in N.Y. Paper

NEW YORK, Aug. 18 (AP)—The Dallas County Jail pending an appeal of his conviction, Chief Justice Warren interviewed him there June 7 in connection with his investigation into all phases of the presidential assassination. Ruby's account of his activities during that period tallied closely with testimony introduced at his trial.

The next day, the Associated Press quoted a reliable source as saying that Ruby testified at the time that he had no connection with Oswald before he shot him. As early as last December, it became known that the FBI and cooperating state, Federal and local authorities had concluded that Oswald was the solitary and unaided assassin.

Miss Kilgallen said in her Journal-American story that she obtained the actual transcript of Warren's interview with Ruby "from sources close to the Warren Commission in Washington." Most of the first installment of the transcript covered the period from Mr. Kennedy's assassination in midday of Nov. 22 to early the next morning. Ruby's account of his activities during that period tallied closely with testimony introduced at his trial.

In a copyrighted story today by New York Journal-American columnist Dorothy Kilgallen, Ruby is quoted as having told Chief Justice Earl Warren during interrogation last June 7:

"I was never malicious toward this person. No one else requested me to do anything. I never spoke to anyone about attempting to do anything. No subversive organization gave me any idea. No underworld persons made any effort to contact me."

[The office of J. Lee Rankin, chief counsel to the Warren Commission, said in Washington that the Ruby transcript "did not come out of the Commission."]

Ruby stepped out of a crowd of newsmen and on-lookers in the basement of Dallas Police Headquarters on Sunday, Nov. 24, and fired a single fatal bullet into Oswald, who had been formally charged as the assassin of President John F. Kennedy.

Condemned to death by a Dallas jury last March 14, Ruby is now being held in

# Story of the Shocking Moment

By DOROTHY  
KILGALLEN

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New York Journal-American

Shortly before noon on Sunday, June 7, Earl Warren, Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, sat down opposite Jack Ruby, the convicted killer of Lee Harvey Oswald, the man accused of assassinating President Kennedy.

For the next three hours and five minutes, the august and distinguished Chief Justice and the little guy from Chicago's slums—the little guy who never made it—talked about what happened that terrible weekend of last Nov. 22—

The weekend that started with the murder of the President on Friday and ended 48 hours later with Ruby firing a bullet into Oswald's abdomen in the basement of the Dallas City Jail.

From sources close to the Warren Commission in Washington, I obtained the transcript of what was said last June 7 in a neat but clinically cold interrogation room of the Dallas County Jail.

## THE THINGS UNSAID . . .

It is a fascinating document—fascinating for what it leaves unsaid, as well as for what it says.

~~Fifteen persons, including~~  
Ruby and Chief Justice War-

New York Journal-American 1

AUG 18 1964

men—were present in the interrogation room when Ruby began his recital. But eventually it was Jack Ruby who dominated.

He was told to tell his story, and he did, in thousands of words and hundreds of sentences, some of which rambled on to the point of being without sense.

But in the end, Jack Ruby told much about himself that day.

He opened the floodgates of his mind and unloosed a stream of consciousness that would have dazzled a James Joyce buff and enraptured a psychiatrist.

#### SMALL MAN, LARGE EGO

Jack Ruby bared to the Chief Justice his emotions, his fears, his triumphs and his ego—a large ego for such a small man.

And what of those who listened to him?

I read the transcript three times in one sitting. And it seemed to me that the Chief Justice and the Warren Commission's General Counsel, J. Lee Rankin, were acutely aware of the talk both here and in Europe that President Kennedy was the victim of a conspiracy.

They took pains to prove to themselves and the world that no conspiracy existed. So perhaps the most important question contained in the 102-page transcript is this:

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: May I ask you this question, and this is one of the questions we came here to ask you. Did you know Lee Harvey Oswald prior to this shooting?

RUBY: That is why I want to take the lie detector test. Just saying no isn't sufficient.

#### STICKS TO POINT

Through his entire testimony Jack Ruby stuck to one theme: He had shot Oswald because he didn't want Mrs. Kennedy, the President's widow, to be forced into the ordeal of testifying at the accused assassin's trial.

"I was never malicious toward this person (Oswald)," Ruby told the Chief Justice at one point. "No one else requested me to do anything."

"I never spoke to anyone about attempting to do anything," he continued. "No subversive organization gave me any idea. No underworld person made any effort to contact me. It all happened that Sunday morning."

The hint of conspiracy was very much in the air again when Mr. Rankin asked Ruby if he knew Officer J. D. Tippit, the policeman allegedly shot and killed by Oswald some 45 minutes after the assassination.

"I knew there was three Tippits on the force," Ruby replied. "The only one I knew used to work for the Special Services, and I am certain this wasn't the Tippit, this wasn't the man."

#### PUZZLING STATEMENT

So Jack Ruby swears he didn't know Officer J. D. Tippit. And this is rather strange. Because according to the Dallas police, Ruby knew every cop on the force.

Didn't Dallas authorities explain that it was because Ruby was so well known within the department that he was able to get so close to Oswald that Sunday morning? Didn't Dallas authorities explain that no policeman would think of questioning the presence of good old Jack Ruby?

Yet, Officer J. D. Tippit was a complete stranger to the man who prided himself on his close association with the Dallas police.

Despite Ruby's statement that he wasn't acquainted with Officer Tippit, Mr. Rankin pressed on.

"There was a story," Mr. Rankin told Ruby, "that you were seen sitting in your Carousel Club with Mr. (Bernard) Weisman, Officer Tippit, and another man who has been called a rich oil man, at one time shortly before the assassination. Can you tell us anything about that?"

#### WHO WAS IT?

Ruby answered the question with a question of his own:

"Who was the rich oil man?"

MR. RANKIN: Can you remember? We haven't been told. We are just trying to find out anything that you know about him.

RUBY: I am the one that made such a big issue of Bernard Weisman's ad. (The ad, extremely critical of President Kennedy, appeared in a Dallas newspaper the day of the assassination.) Maybe you do things to cov-

er up, if you are capable of doing it.

Ruby then launched into an account of visiting a Dallas club Saturday afternoon. But Mr. Rankin and Chief Justice Warren pressed him about reports of the meeting.

#### QUERIES WARREN

"How many days prior to the assassination was that?" Ruby asked.

"My recollection is that it was a week or two," the Chief Justice replied.

"Did anyone have any knowledge that their beloved President was going to visit here prior to that time, or what is the definite time that they knew he was coming to Dallas?" Ruby countered.

"Well, I don't know just what those dates are," Chief Justice Warren replied.

"I see," said Ruby. And at that point it almost appeared as if Ruby and Mr. Warren had changed places—that Ruby was the interrogator and the Chief Justice his witness.

#### UNAWED BY WARREN

Ruby then skipped on to his life in Chicago. And while he never admitted that the reported meeting took

place, he never directly denied it either.

If you get the impression from reading the transcript that Ruby wasn't the least bit awed by the Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, you are absolutely right.

About a third-of-the-way through his testimony, the ex-striptease impresario turned to the Chief Justice and asked:

"Is there any way of you getting me to Washington?"

One can almost picture the look of surprise and consternation that passed across Mr. Warren's face. For he said, quite simply:

"I beg your pardon?"

#### DOMINATED BY RUBY

At another point Ruby asked Mr. Warren if he knew a local disc jockey.

"I think I do not," the Chief Justice replied rather coolly.

Yes, indeed, Jack Ruby dominated—

Dominated to the point where he engaged in an argument with Joe Tonahill, one of his defense lawyers.

"You are lying, Joe Tonahill," Ruby accused. "You are lying."

Dominated to the point where Sheriff Bill Decker and the other law enforce-

ment officers left the room so that Ruby would continue with his story.

Dominated to the point that Mr. Warren promised Ruby he would have a lie detector test. And the Chief Justice made good on his promise. The test was administered last month.

#### 'I AM FINISHED'

Yet, there was a great deal of fear inside Jack Ruby that Sunday in June. He feared for his own life; he feared for the lives of his brothers and sisters.

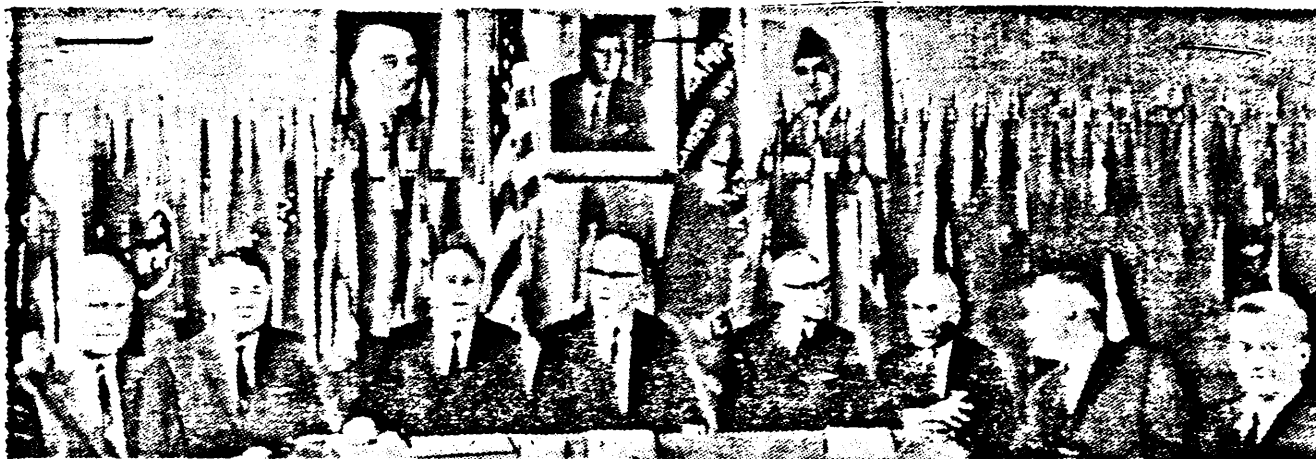
"When you leave here," Ruby told Mr. Warren at one point, "I am finished. My family is finished."

And then, in perhaps his strangest statement of all, Jack Ruby, who had finally achieved the notoriety he always longed for, said:

"You have a lost cause, Earl Warren. You don't stand a chance. They feel about you like they do about me, Chief Justice Warren."

But perhaps that statement wasn't so strange after all. What Jack Ruby had done was to put himself in the same boat as the Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Not bad for a little tough guy from Chicago's slums.



The Warren Commission. Left to right: Rep. Ford (R-Mich.); Rep. Boggs (D-La.); Sen. Russell (D-Ga.); Chief Justice Warren; Sen. Cooper (R-Ky.); John J. McCloy, New York banker; Allen Dulles, former CIA director, and J. Lee Rankin, counsel. Wirephoto from AP



As Ruby Fired Fatal Shot at Kennedy's Assassin

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# Chief Justice's Deep Probe In Oswald's Killing

[Chief Justice Warren's Examination  
of Jack Ruby Continues Tomorrow]

By DOROTHY H. GALLAN -

Copyright, 1964, by The New York Journal-American

What you are about to read is the transcript of the testimony given by Jack Ruby to Chief Justice Earl Warren and other members of the Warren Commission investigating the assassination of President Kennedy.

The transcript will be printed in this newspaper in three installments. This is the first of those three. The others will appear tomorrow and Thursday.

The Warren Commission will not make public its findings until sometime next month.

But through sources close to the Warren Commission in Washington I obtained a copy of the original transcript of Ruby's highly important testimony.

The transcript is 102 pages long and is a word-by-word account of a three-hour, five-minute interrogation of Jack Ruby—the third member of a triangle that has become an irrevocable part of history.

Jack Ruby has been convicted of killing Lee Harvey Oswald. He has been sentenced to death. In his testimony before Chief Justice Warren, Ruby traces his movements from the time of the President's murder until the moment he shot Oswald—Mr. Kennedy's accused assassin.

Did you know Lee Harvey Oswald? That was one of the questions Ruby was asked. Were you part of a conspiracy against the President? That was another of the questions.

Jack Ruby answered. And as he talked he bared his mind and moved us a step closer to solving some of the riddles that have plagued this country and the world since the hour of President Kennedy's tragic death.

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AUG 18 1964

**This Is the Q. and A.**

**CONFIDENTIAL  
PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION  
ON THE  
ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY**

Dallas, Texas  
Sunday, June 7, 1964  
11:45 a.m.-2:50 p.m.

The President's Commission met, pursuant to recess, at 11:45 a.m. in the interrogation room of the Dallas County Jail, Main and Houston streets, Dallas, Texas.

**PRESENT**

Chief Justice Earl Warren  
J. Lee Rankin, General Counsel  
Congressman Gerald R. Ford, Michigan  
Elmer W. Moore, Special Agent, U. S. Secret Service  
Joseph A. Ball, Staff Counsel  
Arlen Specter, Staff Counsel  
Robert G. Storey, Counsel  
Leon Jaworski, Counsel  
Jim Bowie, Assistant District Attorney  
Joe H. Tonahill, Counsel representing Jack Ruby  
Sheriff Bill Decker  
E.L. Holman, Chief Jailer  
Orvill Smith, Deputy Sheriff assigned to Jack Ruby  
Helen Laidrich, Reporter

**PROCEEDINGS**

**RUBY:** Without a lie detector test on my testimony, my verbal statements to you, how do you know if I am telling the truth?

**MR. TONAHILL:** Don't worry about that, Jack.

**RUBY:** Just a minute, gentlemen.

**CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN:** You wanted to ask something, did you, Mr. Ruby?

**RUBY:** I would like to be able to get a lie detector test



truth serum of what motivated me to do what I did at that particular time, and it seems as you get further into something, even though you know what you did, it operates against you somehow, brain washes you, that you are weak in what you want to tell the truth about and what you want to say which is the truth.

Now, Mr. Warren, I don't know if you got any confidence in the lie detector test and the truth serum and so on.

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: I can't tell you just how much confidence I have in it, because it depends so much on who is taking it and so forth. But I will say this to you, that if you and your counsel want any kind of test, I will arrange it for you. I would be glad to do that, if you want it. I wouldn't suggest a lie detector test to testify the truth. We will treat you just the same as we do any other witness, but if you want such a test, I will arrange it.

RUBY: I do want it. Will you agree to that, Joe?

MR. TONAHILL: I sure do, Jack.

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Any kind of test you want to verify what you say, we will be glad to do.

RUBY: I want it even if you put me into a sort of drowsiness so you can question me as to anything pertaining to my involvement in this particular act.

MR. TONAHILL: Jack, you have wanted to do that from the very beginning, haven't you?

RUBY: Yes. And the reason why I am asking for that is,

...are you limited for time?

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: No, we have all the time you want.

RUBY: As it started to trial—I don't know if you realize my reasoning, how I happened to be involved—I was carried away tremendously emotionally, and all the time I tried to ask Mr. (Melvin) Belli, I wanted to get up and say the truth regarding the steps that led me to what what I have got involved in, but since, I have a spotty background in the night club business, I should have been the last person to ever want to do something that I had been involved in. In other words, I was carried away tremendously. You want to ask me questions?

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: You tell us what you want, and then we will ask you some questions.

MR. RANKIN: I think he ought to be sworn.

RUBY: Am I boring you?

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Go ahead. All right, Mr. Ruby, tell us your story.

RUBY: That particular morning—where is Mr. Moore?—I had to go down to the (Dallas) News building, getting back to this—I don't want to interrupt.

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: What morning do you mean?

RUBY: Friday morning, the starting of the tragedy. Mr. Belli evidently did not go into my case thoroughly circum-

stantially. If he had gone into it, he wouldn't have tried to vindicate me on an insanity plea to relieve me of all responsibility, because circumstantially everything looks so bad for me. It can happen—it happens to many people who happen to be at the wrong place at the right time.

Had Mr. Belli spent more time with me, he would have realized not to try to get me out completely free; at the time we are talking, technically, how attorneys operate.

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: I understand.

RUBY: Different things came up, flashed back into my mind, that it dirtied my background, that Mr. Belli and I decided—oh yes, when I sent to say that I wanted to get on the stand and tell the truth what happened that morning he said, "Jack, when they get you on the stand, you are actually speaking of a premeditated crime that you involved yourself in." But I didn't care because I wanted to tell the truth.

He said, "When the prosecution gets you on the stand, they will cut you to ribbons." So naturally, I had to retract, and he fought his way to try to vindicate me out of this particular crime. You follow that?

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Yes, I do indeed.

RUBY: I want you to question me and requestion me on anything you want, plus the fact I do want the test when they are available.

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Yes.

RUBY: On Friday, the morning parade—this goes back to Thursday night, because it has something to do with it. We were having dinner at the Egyptian Restaurant—

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Right now, Mr. Ruby, before we get started taking your testimony, would you mind being sworn?

(Chief Justice Warren and Ruby stand and both raise their right hand.)

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Do you solemnly swear that the testimony you are about to give before the Commission will be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

RUBY: I do.

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Now will you please state whether the things you have just told us are true under your oath?

RUBY: I do so state they are the truth.

### 'Felt It Was a Lost Cause'

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Now you complete whatever story you want to tell.

RUBY: All right. Thursday night I was having dinner at the Egyptian Restaurant on Mockingbird Lane, and a fellow comes over to the table. I was sitting with a guy by the name of Ralph Paul. He tried to invite me to the Club a couple of doors down and I refused, because he had taken a band away from me that had been engaged for seven years, and I felt it was a lost cause, that the Club would be falling because of that, and I sort of excused myself and I refused to go over to the club.

We finished our dinner, and I went down to the Club that I operated, the Carousel, and this particular Master of Ceremonies happened to be there at the time, and we discussed a few things. And there is a columnist by the name of Tony Zoppi—and prior to that, I wrote out a full page copy of this build—I have the copies—as an MC, and I brought a picture and brochure, and Tony said, "I will write a story." This was done two days prior to this Thursday night.

So then I went down, so we discussed it and were very much disgusted with Tony because he only gave us a build of one or two lines. Well, I retired that night after closing the Club. Then I knew I wanted to go back to the Morning News building to get the brochure I left, and also this complete page of longhand writing describing the various talents of this Bill DeMarr.

I picked up the brochure that Friday morning, and I also had business at the News building on Friday because that is the start of the weekend, which is very lucrative, the weekend. I have ways of making my ads of where they have a way of selling the product I am producing or putting on the show. So I went down there Friday morning to Tony Zoppi's office, and they said he went to New Orleans for a couple of days.

I picked up the brochure. I believe I got downtown there at 10:30 or 11:00 o'clock that morning. And I took the brochure and then went into the main room where we compose our ads. That is the sales room where we placed our ads. And I remained there for a while. I started to write the copy of my ad.

Now I go back to the same fellow that wanted me to come over to the Club when we were having our dinner on Mockingbird at the Egyptian Lounge. I came to the desk and I wanted to apologize and explain why I didn't accept his invitation last night. I wanted to explain, and that took about twenty or twenty-five minutes. All this is pertaining to everything prior to the terrible tragedy that happened.

I started to explain to him why I didn't want to go there because this fellow mentioned—Tony, I think—I can't think of his last name—of me having his band so many years, and I felt at the moment I didn't want to go over to the Club because I didn't care to meet this fellow.

And he started to apologize, "Jack, I am sorry, I did work for the fellow and we have been advertising him for that Club, and I am putting out a night club book." I remained with him for twenty or twenty-five minutes talking there. I don't know whether my ad was completed or not. It was an ad on the Vegas and the Carousel. My ads were completed, I believe, and after finishing my conversation with him, he left.

Suddenly the man that completes my ads for me, that helps me with it on occasion—but I usually make it up myself—but the person that takes the money for the ads—this is the reason it is so hard for me to meet a deadline when I get downtown to the News building. And as a rule, I have to pay cash for my ads. When you are in debt, it is necessary, and they will not put it in unless you pay cash.

And consequently, the weekend, I had been to town on that particular day. All this adds up later on, as I will state why I didn't go to the parade. In the first place, I don't want to go where there is big crowds. I can't explain it to you. If I was interested, I would have seen it on television, our beloved President and all the parade that transpired. But all that adds up why it is important for me to be in the News building.

I owe the government quite a bit of money, and it is doing business out of your pocket, supposedly in the slang expression. Well, John Newman comes in, and evidently he took it for granted I finished my ad, and I don't recall if he paid for his ad, and suddenly there is some milling around.

I think it was 12:00 o'clock or fifteen minutes after 12:00. I don't recall what, but John Newman said someone had been shot. And I am sorry. I got carried away because I had been under pressure. And someone else came running over and he said a Secret Service man was shot, or something to that effect. And I am there in the middle with John Newman, because Newman isn't paying any attention to anyone else, and there is a lot going back and forth.

### In a State of Hysteria

So someone must have made a statement that Governor Connally was shot. I don't recall what was said. And I was in a state of hysteria, I mean. You say, "Oh my God, it can't happen." You carry on crazy sayings.

There was a little television set in one office not far away from where I had been sitting at the desk. I ran over there and noticed a little boy and a little sister say, "I was standing right there when it happened." I mean, different things you hear on the television. Then the phone started

ringing off the desk and I heard John Newman say people were complaining about the ad, why they accepted this ad.

(A tray of water and glasses was brought in.)

Thank you. Has every witness been this hesitant in trying to explain their story?

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: You are doing very well. I can understand why you have to reflect upon a story of that length.

RUBY: The phones were ringing off the desk calling various ads, and they were having a turmoil in that News building because of a person by the name of Bernard Weissman placing that particular ad, full page ad. I am sure you are familiar with the ad.

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Yes, I am.

RUBY: Criticizing a lot of things about our beloved President. Then John Newman and I and another gentleman walked over to another part of the room, and I heard John Newman say, "I told him not to take that ad." Something to that effect. Then he said, "Well, you have seen him pay part cash and come back and pay the balance." Now everything is very vague to me as to when this transpired; after they heard the President had been shot, or prior to that. You know it's been a long time, and I am under a very bad mental strain here.

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Yes.

RUBY: From the time we were told that the President was shot, thirty-five minutes later they said he had passed away. In the meantime, I became very emotional. I called my sister at home. She was carried away terribly bad. And John Newman happened to be there, and I know it is a funny

reaction you have you want other people to feel that you are emotionally disturbed the same way as other people, so I let John listen to the phone that my sister was crying hysterically.

And I said to John, I said, "John I will have to leave Dallas." I don't know why I said that, but it is a funny reaction that you feel, the city is terribly let down by the tragedy that happened. And I said, "John, I am not opening up tonight." And I don't know what else transpired there. I know people were just heartbroken. I left the room. I may have left out a few things. Mr. Moore remembers probably more, but you come back and question me and maybe I can answer these questions.

### 'I Was Crying Pretty Bad'

I left the building and I went down and I got my car and I couldn't stop crying, because naturally when I pulled up to a "Stop" light and other people would be adjacent to me, I wouldn't want them to see me crying, because it looked kind of artificial. And I went to the Club and I came up, and I may have made a couple of calls from there. I could have called my colored boy, Andy, down at the Club. I could have—I don't know who else I would have called, but I could have, because it is so long now since my mind is very much warped now. You think that literally?

I went up to the Club and I told Andy, I said, "Call everyone and tell them we are not opening." We have a little girl in Fort Worth I wanted to make sure he called her. And a fellow by the name of Bell called and wanted to know if we were open. And Kathy Kay called, and I said, "Definitely not." And I called Ralph Paul, that owns the Bull Pen. He said, "Jack, being as everyone else is open"—because he knows I was pressed for money—and I said, "No, Ralph, I can't open." He said, "Okay, if that is why, that is the way it's got to be."

So in the meantime, I had gone with Alice Nichols for sometime, and I called her on the phone but she wasn't there, but I left the number on the pay phone for her to return the call, because I didn't want to keep the business phone tied up. And I hadn't spoken to her in maybe nine months or a year. I don't know what I said to her, not many words, but just what happened.

I still remained around the Club there. I am sure I was crying pretty bad. I think I made a long distance call to California. This fellow had just visited me, and I had known him in the days back in Chicago when we were very young, in the real tough part of Chicago. His name is Al Gruber.

He was a bad kid in those days, but he is quite reformed. He is married and has a family, and I am sure he makes a very legitimate livelihood at this time. He happened to come through a couple of nights prior to that to try to interest me, or four or five days prior to that, to interest me in a new kind—you follow the story as I tell it?

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: Yes.

RUBY: It is important, very important. It is on a new kind of machine that washes cars. You pay with tokens. It is a new thing. I don't know if it faded out or not. He tried to interest my brother, Sammy, because Sammy sold his washateria. And my sister was in the hospital when he first came. I am going back a little bit. Sammy didn't go to the hospital, and we needed to sell Sammy about this particular thing, and that is the reason Al Gruber came into the picture, because he came to try to interest my brother Sammy in this new washateria deal to wash cars.

He left and went to California, but before he went to California I promised him my Dachshund dog. When this thing happened, I called him. He said, "Yes, we are just

"watching on television." And I couldn't carry on more conversation. I said, "Al, I have to hang up." Then I ~~must have~~ called my sister, Eileen, in Chicago.

Then a fellow came over to deliver some merchandise I had ordered over the phone, or Andy ordered. And we said, "What is the use of purchasing any merchandise of any kind, we are not interested in business." And I don't recall what I said, but I told him whatever money he received, to keep the change. I am not a philanthropist, but nothing bothered me at the time. I wasn't interested in anything.

Then I kept calling my sister, Eva, because she wanted me to come be with her. Eva and I have a very complex personality. Very rarely can I be with her, but on this particular occasion, since she was carrying on so, I felt that I wanted to be with someone that meant something to me. I wanted to be with her. And I kept calling her back, "I will be there." And so on. But I never did get there until a couple of hours later.

I finally left the Club. I am sure you gentlemen can brief in all the things that happened before. A kid by the name of Larry up there, I think I told him to send the dog they crated, to find out about the price—very impulsive about everything. Then I left the Club. And I had been dieting, but I felt I wanted some food. I can't explain it. It would be like getting intoxicated at that particular time. It is amusing, but it is true.

I went over to the Ritz Delicatessen a block and a half away. Must have bought out the store, for about ten dollars' worth of delicacies and so on. Went out to my sister's and stayed at her apartment. Oh, I called from the apartment—my sister knew more of my calls than I did. I remember I

~~think I called~~—I can't think of who I called.

Anyway, I am sure I made some calls of what had happened there. Somebody will have to piece me together from the time I got to my sister's apartment where I had partaken of the food. Oh yes, I called Andy. This Andy Armstrong called me and said, "Don Safran wants you to call him."

This is rare for this gentleman, because he is a columnist for the Dallas Times Herald, because he never could get out any copy for my Club. And he said, "Don Safran wants me to call him." I called him, and he said, "Jack are you going to be closed tonight?" I said, "Yes." He said, "Well, the Cabana and the Adolphus, the Century Room, are going to be closed."

I said, "Don, I am not asking you about any Clubs that are going to be closed. I know I am going to be closed." And he said, "Jack, that is what I want to know." And I said, "You don't have to prompt me about who else is going to be closed." I put the receiver down and talked to my sister, and I said, "Eva, what shall we do?" And she said, "Jack, let's close for the three days." She said, "We don't have anything anyway, but we owe it to"—(chokes up).

So I called Don Safran back immediately and I said, "Don, we decided to close for Friday, Saturday and Sunday." And he said, "Okay." Then I called the Morning News and I wanted to definitely make sure to change a copy of my ad to "Closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday," something to that effect. And it was a little late in the afternoon, but he said, "We will try to get the copy in."

### 'Clubs Were Still Open'

Then I called Don back again but couldn't get him, and I spoke to one of his assistants, and I said, I forgot what I told him. Anyway, that is one of the calls I had that had transpired. I lie down and take a nap. I wake about 7:00 or 7:30. In the meantime, I think I called—the reason this comes back to me, I know I was going to go to the Synagogue.

I called Coleman Jacobson and asked him what time services are tonight, and he said he didn't know. And I said, "Are there going to be any special services?" And he said he didn't know of any. And I called the Congregation Shearith Israel and asked the girl, and she said, "Regular services at 8:00 o'clock." And I said, "Aren't there going to be earlier services like 5:30 or 6:00?"

And about 7:30 I went to my apartment. I don't know if I went downtown to the Club. I know I went to my apartment—either to the Club or to the apartment. And I changed, showered and shaved, and I think I drove—and as I drove down, there is a certain Thornton Freeway, and I saw the Clubs were still open going full blast, a couple of clubs there.

Anyway, I went out to the Synagogue and I went through the line and I spoke to Rabbi Silverman, and I thanked him for going to visit my sister at the hospital. She was in a week prior and had just gotten out. I don't remember the date.

Then he had a Confirmation—this is the night prior to the Confirmation. They serve little delicacies. So in spite of the fact of the mood I was in, I strolled into the place, and I think I had a little glass of punch. Nothing intoxicating, just a little punch they serve there. I didn't speak to anyone. One girl, Leona, said "Hello, Jack," and I wasn't in a conversational mood whatsoever.

I left the Club—I left the Synagogue and I drove by the Bali-Hai Restaurant. I noticed they were open. I took recognition of that. I drove by another Club called the Gay Nineties, and they were closed. And I made it my business to drive down Preston Road.

In my mind suddenly it mulled over me that the Police Department was working overtime. And this is the craziest thing that ever happened in a person's life. I have always been very close to the Police Department. I don't know why.

I felt I had always abided by the law—a few little infractions, but not serious—and I felt we have one of the greatest police forces in the world here, and I have always been close to them, and I visited in the office. And over the radio I heard they were working overtime.

I stopped at the delicatessen called Phil's on Oak Lawn Avenue, and suddenly I decided—I told the clerk there I wanted him to make me some real good sandwiches, about ten or twelve, and he had already started on the sandwiches and I got on the phone.

### 'I Will Tell the Boys...'

I called an officer by the name of Sims and I said, "Sims, I hear you guys are working," and so on. I said, "I want to bring some sandwiches." And he said, "Jack, we wound up our work already. We wound up what we were doing. We are finished what we were doing. I will tell the boys about your thoughtfulness, and I will thank them for you." In the meantime, there is a fellow in town that has been very good to me named Gordon McLendon. Do you know him, Mr. Warren?

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: I think I do not.

BUBY: He had been giving me a lot of free plugs. And all the while listening to the radio, I heard about a certain disc jockey, Joe Long, that is down at the station, giving first-hand information—I want to describe him—of Oswald. Very rarely do I use the name Oswald. I don't know why. I don't know how to explain it—of the person that committed the act. (Pause to compose self.)

So before going down to the police station, I try to call KLIF but can't get their number—I wanted to bring the sandwiches to KLIF so they would have the sandwiches, since they already started to make them up. And I remember Russ Knight, a disc jockey—these names aren't familiar to you, but I have to mention them in order to refresh my memory.

His name was Moore, or something, and I tried to get information on the telephone, but they couldn't give me the phone number of his home. I probably thought I could get the phone number, but after 6:00 p.m. you cannot get into the premises unless you have a "hot" number that is right to the disc jockey room. So I couldn't get a hold of that.

But in the meantime I called Gordon McLendon's home, because I know he lives near the Synagogue out there, and I got a little girl on the phone, and I knew they had children, and I asked for the number of KLIF. I said, "Anyone home?" She said, "no." I said, "Is your Daddy or Mommy home?" I forget what transpired. I said, "I would like to get the number of the station so that I can get in the building at this time."

She said she would go and see, and gave me a Riverside exchange. Mind you, this is six or seven months back, gentlemen. And I asked her name. Her name was Christine, I think. I said, "I wanted to bring some sandwiches. She said, "My mother already brought sandwiches." And I said I wanted to go there too. And that was the end of this little girl's conversation with myself. I called that number, as I am repeating myself. There was no such number. It was an obsolete number.

I go down to the—I drive by—I leave the delicatessen—the clerk helped me with the sandwiches out to my car, and I thanked him. I told him, "These were going to KLIF, and I want you to make them real good." He helped me with the sandwiches in the car. I got in the car and drove toward town. I imagine it is about four or five miles to the downtown section from this delicatessen.



### Enter: Lee Oswald

But prior to going into the station, I drove up McKinney Avenue to look over a couple of clubs to see if they were activating. I knew the club across from Phil's Restaurant and I knew the B&B Restaurant was open. That is a restaurant and I know the necessity for food, but I can't understand some of the clubs remaining open. It struck me funny at such a tragic time as that happening.

I drove down to Commerce and Harwood and parked my car with my dog—Incidentally, I always have my dog with me—on the lot there, left the sandwiches in the car, and went into the building of the police station, took the elevator up to the second floor, and there was a police officer there.

This is the first time I ever entered the building, gentlemen. The first time of that Friday. This time it must have been about—I mean the time, the time of my entering the building, I guess, was approximately 11:15 p.m. The officer was there, and I said, "Where is Joe Long?" I said, "Can I go and look for him?"

Evidently I took a little domineering part about me, and I was able to be admitted. I asked different reporters and various personalities there, "Are you Joe Long?" and I couldn't locate him. I even had a police officer try to page him and he couldn't locate him. I recognized a couple of police officers, Cal Jones and a few others, and I said "hello" to them. And I am still looking for Joe Long, but I am carried away with the excitement of history.

And one fellow then—I am in the hallway there—there is a narrow hallway, and I don't recall if Captain Fritz or Chief Curry brings the prisoner out, and I am standing about two or three feet away from him, and there is some reporters that didn't know the various police officers, and I don't know whether they asked me or I volunteered to tell them, because I knew they were looking to find out who that was, and I said, "That was Chief Curry" or "That is Captain Fritz," or whoever it was. I don't recall (Dallas County District Attorney) Henry Wade coming out in the hallway. He probably did. I don't recall what happened.

(To Mr. Tonahill: Is that for me, Joe?)

Then suddenly someone asked, either the Chief or Captain Fritz, "Isn't there a larger room we can go into?" They said, "Well, let's go down to the Assembly Room downstairs." I don't know what transpired in between from the time that I had the officer page Joe Long up to the time I was standing about three feet away from Oswald. All the things—I don't recall if I am telling you everything that happened from that time, from the time I entered the building to the time I went down to the Assembly Room.

### Catches DA in Error

I went down to the Assembly Room down in the basement. I felt perfectly free walking in there. No one asked me or anything. I got up on a little table there where I knew I wasn't blocking anyone's view, because there was an abutment sticking out, and I had my back to the abutment, and I was standing there. Then they brought the prisoner out and various questions were being shouted.

I noticed there was a Chief County or Judge Davidson. I can think of his name, one of these Precinct Court Judges, and they brought the prisoner out. I don't recall if Chief Fritz, Captain Fritz was there, or Chief Curry. I know Henry Wade was there.

And they started shouting questions and he said, "Is he the one?" And the question about the gun. And they questioned Henry Wade, "What organization did he belong to," or something. And if I recall, I think Henry Wade answered, "Free Cuba."

And I corrected Henry Wade, because listening to the radio or KLIF, it stood out in my mind that it was "Fair Play Cuba." There was a difference. So he said, "Oh yes, Fair Play Cuba," and he corrected that. I don't know how long we remained there. There was a lot of questions thrown back and forth, and this District Attorney Henry Wade was answering them to the best he could.

From the time he started, he let the reporters know that this was the guilty one that committed the crime. He specifically stated that in that room, that he was the one. It didn't

have any effect on my mind, because whether the person had come out, whether he come out openly and publicly stated didn't have any bearing in my mind, because I wasn't interested in anything. All I knew, they had the prisoner. But the reporters like to know where they stand, "is he the one?"

We left out in the hallway, and I saw Henry Wade standing there, and I went over to him and said, "Henry, I want you to know I was the one that corrected you." I think it is a childish thing, but I met Henry Wade sometime back, and I knew he would recognize me. "By the way, it was Fair Play Cuba," or something to that effect.

In the meantime, as I leave Henry Wade, two gentlemen pass by and I said, "Are you Joe Long?" He said, "No, why do you want Joe Long?" And I said "I got to get into KLIF. I have got some sandwiches." And he said, "What about us?" And I said, "Some other time."

And it so happened I found out Jerry Gunkle and Sam Pease, I found out they were the names, so I did get the number, because these fellows work for a rival radio station, and he gave me the number of KLIF. And in the testimony of John Rutledge, if I recall now—this is the only time I had ever seen this person. When I went out the railing where the phone was at, people felt free to walk in.

In other words, I felt that I was deputized as a reporter momentarily, you might say. So I called one of the boys at KLIF and I said to them, "I have sandwiches for you. I want to get over there." I said, "By the way, I see Henry Wade talking on the phone to someone. Do you want me to get him over here?" And he said, "Yes, do that."

That is when everyone was beckoning Henry Wade, and I called him over and he talked on the phone to this boy. And after he finished. I didn't even tell him what station it was. I said, "Here is somebody that wants to talk to you." And I felt he wouldn't turn it down. And this fellow was very much elated that I brought him over there. And I said, "Now will you let me in?"

### Broods Over Lie Test

He said, "I will only leave the door open for five minutes." That was after the conversation was finished with Henry Wade. I got ready to leave the building and I got up to the next floor and there was another disc jockey at KLIF, Russ Knight. He said, "Jack, where is everything happening." And he had a tape recorder.

And I said, "Come on downstairs," and led him downstairs. And there was Henry Wade sitting there. And I said, "Henry, this is Russ Knight." And I left him there with Henry Wade, and I went to my car and drove over to KLIF which is a block away from there.

And it was a little chilly that night, as I recall, but by bringing Russ Knight over to Henry Wade, I delayed too

301

STATE OF TEXAS )  
COUNTY OF DALLAS )

I, HELEN LAIDRICK, a Notary Public in and for Dallas County, Texas, do hereby certify that the facts as stated by me in the caption hereto are true; that the foregoing answers in response to the questions propounded by Chief Justice Earl Warren and members of the President's Commission, as indicated, were made before me by JACK RUBY, the witness hereinbefore named, after said witness had been first duly cautioned and sworn to testify the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, and were thereafter reduced to typewriting by me, and that the above and foregoing questions and answers as set forth in typewriting are a full, true, correct and complete transcript of the same, had at the time of taking same; i.e. on Sunday, June 7, 1964, Dallas County Jail, Main & Houston Streets, Dallas, Dallas County, Texas.

Given under my hand and seal of office on this 7th day of June, A.D. 1964.

*Helen Laidrick*  
HELEN LAIDRICK, Notary Public in  
and for Dallas County, Texas.

My commission expires June 2, 1965.

CONFIDENTIAL.

56 44-2-36

long to get to KLIF, and I had to wait fifteen minutes until Russ Knight came from finishing his interview with Henry Wade. I had the sandwiches with me and some soda pop and various things, and Russ Knight opened the door and we went upstairs.

(Arlen Specter, a Staff Counsel, entered the room.)

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: This is another man on my staff, Mr. Specter. Would you mind if he came in?

(Chief Justice Warren introduced the men around the room.)

RUBY: Is there any way to get me to Washington?

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: I beg your pardon?

RUBY: Is there any way of you getting me to Washington?

CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN: I don't know of any. I will be glad to talk to your counsel about what the situation is, Mr. Ruby, when we get an opportunity to talk.

RUBY: I don't think I will get a fair representation with my counsel, Joe Tonahill. I don't think so. I would like to request that I go to Washington and you take all the tests that I have to take. It is very important.

MR. TONAHILL: Jack, will you tell him why you don't think you will get fair representation?

**RUBY:** Because I have been over this for the longest time to get the lie detector test. Somebody has been holding it back from me.

**CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN:** Mr. Ruby, I might say to you that the lateness of this thing is not due to your counsel. He wrote me, I think, close to two months ago and told me that you would be glad to testify and take, I believe he said, any test. I am sure of that, but would be glad to testify before the Commission. And I thanked him for the letter. But we have been so busy that this is the first time we have had an opportunity to do it. But there has been no delay, as far as I know, on the part of Mr. Tonahill in bringing about this meeting. It is our own delay due to the pressures we had on us at the time.

**RUBY:** What State are you from, Congressman?

**CONGRESSMAN FORD:** Michigan. Grand Rapids, Michigan.

**CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN:** I will be glad to talk that over, if we can. You might go right ahead, if you wish, with the rest of your statement.

**RUBY:** All right. I remained at KLIF from that moment on, from the time I got into the building, with Russ Knight. We talked about various things. I brought out the thought of this ad that Bernard Weissman had placed in the newspaper, and I also told Russ the one I admired by Gordon McLendon.

He came out with an editorial about the incident with Adlai Stevenson and all those things. He is one person that will immediately go to bat if anything is wrong. He will clarify it. And I told Russ Knight there were some other things that were occurring at the time. So I remained there until about 2:00 a.m. in the morning and we all partook of the sandwiches and had a feast there. And they spliced the various comments they got back and forth of Henry Wade, of Russ Knight's copy of Russ Knight's items of Henry Wade.

#### **'Lots of Things Happened'**

**CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN:** Mr. Ruby, this is the young man, Mr. Specter. He is a member of our staff, and he comes from Philadelphia.

(Ruby shakes hands with Mr. Specter.)

**RUBY:** I am at a disadvantage, gentlemen, telling my story.

**CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN:** You were right at the point where you had it about 2:00 o'clock in the morning and you had had your feast, as you mentioned, and had talked to these men, and so forth. That was the last that you had told us.

**RUBY:** Well, lots of things occurred up to that. They talked pro and con about the tragedy. At 2:00 I left the building. I drove—I was going to go toward the Times Herald building, because as a result—I very rarely go there for my weekend ad, because once I get the ad into the Morning News,

which in the earlier issue, all I had to do is call the newspaper, and they transpire the same ad that I had into the newspaper—into the Morning News.

And I promised one of the boys working in the Times Herald building there—I was in the act, in the business of a twist board deal I was promoting as a sales item by advertisement and mail order, and I had been evading him, or didn't have time to go out there because it was very late when I left the Club, and I didn't want to stop, but because this was an early morning, I thought this would be the right time to go over there, plus the fact of changing my ad I had in the Morning News to the close of three days, that I would go over there and maybe add a little more effectiveness to it in the way I wanted the ad placed.

As I was driving toward the Times Herald with the intention of doing these things, I heard someone honk a horn very loudly and I stopped. There was a police officer sitting in a car. He was sitting with this young lady that works in my Club, Kathy Kay, and they were very much carried away. And I was carried away; and he had a few beers, and it is so bad about those places open, and I was a great guy to close; and I remained with them—did I tell you this part of it?

MR. MOORE: I don't recall this part, no.

RUBY: I didn't tell you this part because at the time I thought a lot of Harry Carlson as a police officer, and either it slipped my mind in telling this, or it was more or less a reason for leaving it out, because I felt I didn't want to involve them in anything, because it was supposed to be a secret that he was going with this young lady. He had marital problems.

I don't know if that is why I didn't tell you that. Anyway, I did leave it out. His name is Harry Carlson. Her name is Kathy Kay. And they talked and they carried on, and they thought I was the greatest guy in the world, and he stated they should cut this guy inch by inch into ribbons, and so on. And she said, "Well, if he was in England, they would drag him through the streets and would have hung him." I forget what she said.

I left them after a long delay. They kept me from leaving. They were constantly talking and were in a pretty dramatic mood. They were crying and carrying on.



**THE DRAMATIC CHANGE IN JACK RUBY:**  
*At the time of his arrest for killing Lee Oswald*

*(left) and when a new trial was denied him after his conviction—and sentence to death—for the murder.*

Wirephotos from AP